HOW “ROTARY IDEAS” IS CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE OF CROWDSOURCING

Lina Aurelio and Peter Audino had something the other one wanted. Rotary Ideas helped them find each other.

Aurelio’s club was looking for $3,000 to buy eyeglasses for needy children in the Philippines. Audino’s club, located in the United States, had exactly that much money earmarked for an international service project.

“We searched Rotary Ideas for a project that fit our budget, one we thought would be effective if supported,” says Audino, international projects committee chair for the Rotary Club of Hyannis in Massachusetts. The eye project in the Philippines met their criteria so they contacted them. “We’re very happy with our choice,” he adds.

More than 300 schoolchildren at two elementary schools in Caloocan City received eye exams and new glasses because of the partnership forged through Rotary Ideas. It marks the first project to be fully funded and completed using Rotary’s crowdsourcing platform.

Rotary Ideas helps clubs connect for funding, volunteers, partnerships, and in-kind donations. Where once they had to rely on Rotary to make this connection -- either through ProjectLINK or by phone or email -- clubs can now post their needs and find projects to support themselves. More than 83 projects have been featured on Rotary Ideas since it launched in August 2013.

And unlike other crowdfunding sites, such as Kickstarter and Indiegogo, Rotary Ideas emphasizes partnerships over simply funding.

“Most crowdfunding tools are only about getting money,” says Kristin Brown, service connections manager at Rotary International. “With Rotary Ideas, we’re expanding that concept to provide a platform for matching clubs to donors, volunteers, and partnerships.”

Throughout the eye project, Aurelio, who serves as Foundation chair for the Rotary Club of Sampaguita-Grace Park in Makati City, sent Audino and his club updates and photos showing students taking eye exams and wearing their new glasses.

“Rotary Ideas helped us show Rotarians abroad the urgent needs of children whose parents can’t afford to pay for eyeglasses,” says Aurelio, whose club has posted other projects on Rotary Ideas with similar success. “We’re thankful for this new website,” she says.

• If you have questions, contact the Ideas team at social@rotary.org
• View our video tutorials to learn how to use Rotary Ideas

Daniela Garcia
Rotary News
Paralympian Dennis Ogbe Defying Paralysis

Dennis Ogbe grips the discus in his right hand. He swings his arm and twists at the waist as far to the right as he can. With one move he snaps back, letting the saucer fly. Upper-body strength is important for any discus thrower, but for Ogbe, a Paralympian, it’s everything.

At age three, Ogbe contracted malaria, and while receiving treatment at a clinic near his home in rural Nigeria, he became infected with the poliovirus. Paralyzed from the waist down, he was sent home in the arms of his mother.

He credits his physical rehabilitation to a harsh form of therapy—the taunts of the other children in his village. After taking his crutches away, kids would dare him to take several steps forward before they would allow Ogbe to join in a game of soccer with them. Eventually, his right leg became stronger and he could walk without a wheelchair or crutches, but his left leg remained paralyzed.

Ogbe, now a U.S. citizen, has made a name for himself in the international Paralympic community and holds the American records for discus and shot put. While competing, he earned a bachelor’s degree and an MBA from Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky. Today he serves as an advocate for polio eradication and as an ambassador for the United Nations Foundation’s Shot@Life campaign to promote childhood immunizations. He spoke at Rotary’s World Polio Day: Making History event on 24 October in Chicago, which is where we caught up with him.

“Whatever I do in this life, I hope and pray that it is going to inspire people,” he says. “I hope it challenges them: ‘If Dennis can do it, I can do it.’”

**THE ROTARIAN:** What challenges did you face growing up with polio?

**OGBE:** In Nigeria, people with disabilities are often cast away or encouraged to be beggars. Polio was evident everywhere, at the bus stops and on the streets. But my father wanted me to have a better life. He told me that he would not see one of his children on the streets, left to beg. He realized that an education would be my saving grace. Most people don’t think of school. In Nigeria, it’s often survival of the fittest. My father believed that in any disability, there’s always an ability. And he gave me the opportunity to figure out what mine was.

**TR:** What was it that drew you to athletics?

**OGBE:** When I was in school, I had to push myself to play sports. I tried tennis, high-jump, and basketball, but I walked with a big limp, making it difficult. At the time, the only sports available for people with disabilities were shot put, javelin, power-lifting, and track. I couldn’t participate in track because I couldn’t afford a better wheelchair. So I found heavy spare rods at auto shops and began to practice throwing.

Eventually I began competing. I ended up throwing for Nigeria at the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney, Australia. There I met an assistant track and field coach for the USA. He must have seen something in me, because I was offered a partial sports scholarship to Bellarmine University, where I competed against able-bodied athletes.

When I wasn’t studying or training, I was working five jobs to pay tuition. If I look at my life without sports, I wouldn’t be where I am today. The competitiveness in sports was the push I needed from the very beginning when I contracted polio. It gave me a goal to work toward. It was the mentality of “I can do more” that brought me to where I am today.

**TR:** How does this competitive mentality help you in your work fighting polio?

**OGBE:** My father always told me that it’s not how one starts that matters, it’s how one finishes. The end is still a hundred miles away, but I know one thing: When I am crossing that finish line, I want to be holding hands with the people who have helped me in my life. There have been many people who have gone out of their way to help me get to where I am today, and I owe it to them to finish strong. That’s how I feel about polio. It’s been a long fight, but we have many friends. I know if we continue to give it our best shot, we will finish this race on top.
Afghanistan
- No new WPV1 case was reported. Total number of cases for 2014 the total is 4.
- No new cases reported of vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV2).
- Nationwide eradication activities were held 4-6 May targeting 8.9 million children. Due to insecurity the SIA not be conducted in Helmand province.

Nigeria
- No new WPV cases were reported. Total number for 2014 remains 3.
- Two new cVDPV2 was reported. Total number for 2014 remains 3.
- Immunization days occurred in April and are planned for May and June.

Pakistan
- 5 new WPV1 cases were reported bringing the total WPV1 cases for Pakistan 2014 to 66.
- No new cVDPV2 cases reported. The total cVDPV2 cases to date in 2014 the total is 10.
- The situation in North Waziristan is dire with the largest number of children being paralyzed by polio in all of Asia. Immunization has been suspended since June 2012 due to security.
- The Peshawar valley is considered the main engine of transmission.

Central Africa
- In Equat Guinea no new WPV1 case was reported. Total for 2014 is 3.
- Due to continued virus circulation in Cameroon, WHO has elevated the risk of international spread to “very high”.
- Emergency response campaigns are being conducted and assessed throughout the region in April, May and June. This includes Cameroon, Chad, CAR, Gabon and Congo.

Horn of Africa
- No new WPV1 cases were reported.
- The total number of cases for is 218 since the beginning of the outbreak in April 2013. Outbreak response across the Horn is continuing.

Israel, West Bank / Gaza
- Although no cases of paralytic polio has been reported environmental surveillance continues and positive samples were detected in 2013 and 2014.
- Immunization activity with bOPV targeting children up to age nine are ongoing in West Bank and Gaza.

West Africa
- No new WPV cases were reported.
- Multi Country synchronized campaigns were held in April and May.

The Middle East
- No new WPVI cases were reported in the past week.
- The most recent WPVI case in the region was in Iraq in February.
- 37 cases are confirmed in Syria since the outbreak began in 2013
- Comprehensive outbreak response continues across the region in Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Lebanon.
- WHO and UNICEF are committed to working will all parties providing humanitarian assistance to Syrians. This includes vaccination of all children no matter where they are, whether in government or contested areas.
Area 6 “Long Term” in West Africa

In 2007 Rotarian Lisa Estabrook of San Juan Bautista Rotary traveled to Accra, Ghana, to attend the West Africa Project Fair. At that time she came home with a project proposal for the Area 6 World Community Service Committee to review. Little did she know that she opened the door to nearly a decade of service between Area 6 and West Africa. This year I had the pleasure to see the fruits of our labor on a trip to visit our projects and our Rotary partners.

The 2007 proposal was to partner with Accra Osu RE Rotary of Ghana, District 9100, to provide disease-free drinking water to nine rural villages. Our WCS Area committee had representatives from Morgan Hill, Gilroy, Gilroy Sunrise, Hollister and San Juan Bautista (Almaden Valley was added in 2010). We voted to ink the partnership and apply for a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant to fund it.

Now 8 years after the proposal was launched and five years after the project was completed, I had an opportunity to go to Ghana to see if the project was still providing water to those villages. At the same time, I planned to check the progress being made on our current Area 6 Global Grant again partnering with Accra Osu RE Rotary to provide clean water and sanitation facilities to a boarding school of 1000 students.

I decided while in Ghana, to take the 45 minute flight from Accra to Lagos, Nigeria, where I could check on the Area 6 Global Grant initiated by Pat Golden of Gilroy Rotary in 2010, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Gbagada South.

The six wells drilled two years ago to provide “disease-free drinking water” to poor and underserved residents of Lagos, Nigeria, are all functioning well. Four of them have systems set up by neighborhood leaders to collect fees to pay for operational and maintenance items. If kept in place, these systems could ensure sustainability in perpetuity. The two remaining neighborhoods have inadequate sustainability systems, so members of Gbagada South Rotary are meeting with the neighborhood leaders to improve sustainability measures.

Our current year Area 6 Global Grant project in Ghana was initiated in 2012 by my own club of Morgan Hill, so my inspection there had special meaning to me. I traveled with members of Osu RE Rotary to Mangoase School where I presented the headmaster with reading books donated to Hollister Rotary by the Chamberlain’s Children Center. We visited the site for a well on school campus and the proposed toilet block which will have 10 toilets, wash basins and showers for boys and 10 for girls. Although progress is slow, our Rotary partners are proceeding methodically to ensure everything is done right.

And lastly the project that spurred the idea of this trip: Lisa’s nine villages were provided disease-free drinking water more than five years ago. On our follow up visit we learned that some villages were experiencing flow interruptions because of a three year drought, similar to what we are experiencing here. To address this our partner Rotarians approached the Ghana Water Company for help. Another group of villages had organized their distribution and fee collection so efficiently that they had a surplus of funds and were thinking of building their own community toilet block.

While my technical inspections yielded mixed results (though mostly favorable), my very presence in West Africa reasserted to our partners that our partnership was long term. We were with them to improve the lives of all the beneficiaries, in perpetuity. To us this means that somebody has to check in periodically to ensure that sustainability measures are still in place.

I spent two weeks in West Africa, representing the Area 6 clubs on my diplomatic inspection trip. The friendships renewed appear now to have life-long durability, as do the projects we have been engaged in, continue to do and plan for the future. And just as D5170 pampers our international guests when they come here, these clubs did the same for me throughout my stay, providing power-packed, fun-filled, rewarding agendas every day.

I came home in March so fulfilled that I’m eager for the excuse to go back. Besides, we have another project to plan. And since my Nigerian friends recently made me a “chief” in their Yoruba tribe, I now have more responsibilities to my own “clan” over there! What a strategy they employed to ensure my return! I love it. And I love them all.

Peter Anderson, for Area 6 WCS Committee
For over 20 years, Michael Anyekase has crisscrossed Ghana drilling boreholes and installing hand pumps on wells to provide clean water. Water for drinking, washing, and flushing toilets. "There is nothing more satisfying than when fresh water comes out of the well and the children shout, 'Hey, water! Water!'" says Anyekase, who works for Water in Africa, a nongovernmental organization (NGO).

In partnership with Rotary members from across the globe, Anyekase’s dedication has helped eradicate Guinea worm disease and lessen the cases of dysentery, diarrhea, and other common diseases associated with dirty water. In fact, Rotary has provided more sources of drinking water in Ghana than any other NGO, Anyekase says.

Many water projects in Ghana are being carried out as part of the Rotary International/USAID H2O Collaboration. The effort is providing more than 100 villages with clean water through installation of boreholes with hand pumps, along with sanitation facilities and hygiene training.

According to a review of the partnership by Aguaconsult, an independent contractor, more than 85 percent of Ghanaians now have access to clean water, surpassing the United Nations Millennium Development Goal of 78 percent by 2015.

WATER CURES, EDUCATES

Samuel Obour, assistant governor of District 9102 and a member of the Sunyani Central club, has spearheaded several water projects. Last year, Sunyani and Canadian Rotary members installed latrines at a primary school in Sunyani and a washing station and toilets at a busy rural market, with funding from a global grant.

"We have so many people traveling from villages to the market. There was no [sanitation] facility of convenience," says Obour. Market-goers would eliminate outdoors and feces entered the water supply, he says, causing dysentery and diseases like Buruli ulcer. If caught early, this flesh-eating disease can usually be treated with antibiotics. But if left untreated, the disease causes irreversible deformity and sometimes life-threatening secondary infections. Obour and other Rotary members have worked with the Ghanaian health service to educate villagers about the importance of early detection and to supply hospitals with necessary treatment tools.

"People who thought Buruli ulcer is caused by spirits will now come to understand that they need to go to hospital for identification," says Obour.

Access to clean water brings benefits even beyond better health, including boosting children’s chances of receiving a good education, or any education for that matter.

"Children wake up very early, sometimes 4 a.m., to go miles away to fetch water," says Obour. "Without water, children are not able to attend school [or] some have to go to school late." With water nearby, the burden is lifted. Children can spend more time being children. Families can spend more time being families. And life can take on a new kind of normalcy. An accomplishment that can only be achieved with a team of dedicated resources.

"Meeting the UN Millennium Development Goals is something that no organization can achieve on its own -- not even Rotary, with its 34,000 clubs and over 1.2 million members," says Ron Denham, a member of the USAID Steering Committee and the Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton, Ontario, Canada. "To be successful, we need leverage -- the leverage that comes from collaboration with others who share our goals. The most notable example of this is the international H2O collaboration."

Support Rotary’s work to provide clean water

By Dan Nixon and Vanessa Glavinskas

Rotary News

Photo Credit: Rotary Images/Alyce Henson
From the desk of the chairman  
Roger Hassler, PDG

On Wednesday evening during the Foundation session at Rotary U. Peter Anderson provided us with a glimpse of just how valuable our efforts to provide Goodwill, Peace, and Understanding around the world have been. As you can read in the accompanying article, Peter describes how are Global Grants not only have provided sustainable disease free drinking water, but also friendships that will help in our quest to build a more peaceful world. I congratulate all of Area 6 for their efforts as well as all of our clubs for the outstanding work that has been done over the years by Engaging Rotary and Changing Lives.

As announced on Wednesday, this will be my next to last note as your District Rotary Foundation Chair. As I stated, Angie and I have made the decision to downsize our home and property. Although at this point we do not know where we will land, it is very possible that we will be moving out of District 5170. Our new adventure is obviously exciting but at the same time it provides us with a heavy heart as we have loved being a part of your lives and a part of the best District in the world full of the best Rotarians alive.

I am very excited to advise that DGE Ed Jellen and DGN Susan Valenta have chosen Cecelia Babkirk to lead the District in all things Foundation for the next two years. You all know Cecelia and you know what an outstanding Rotarian she is. Her knowledge of the Foundation and her connections in the Rotary world will be a great asset to our clubs, so I am blessed with the knowledge that District 5170 will continue to be well served in the future.

I will have a bit more to say in June, so I'm not done yet!!

Think Rotary Doesn’t Get Enough Credit? THINK AGAIN!

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to report that Rotary received extensive international media coverage for its role in the historic polio-free certification of the World Health Organization’s South-East Asia region.

Rotary and the End Polio Now campaign utilized its robust digital communication and social media channels to publicize the regional certification and highlight our leading role in polio eradication.

Among the most popular items shared included a message from new Indian polio eradication celebrity ambassador Yami Gautam and a personal video from Bill Gates congratulating Rotary. Compared to the other partner organizations, Rotary led the digital conversation on polio eradication with 42.6 percent of the total share of voice.

Enclosed are a report and summary of Rotary’s media coverage and a sharable compilation of the highlights with links to the coverage. To view full articles, click on the headlines.

Please share the good news with others.

Best regards,

John Hewko
General Secretary
Rotary International
# District 5170 Annual Giving to Date

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<th>Annual Fund Goal 2013-2014</th>
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<td>$174.40</td>
<td>117.20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Club | Members | Annual Fund Goal 2013-2014 | Annual Fund through February 10 | APF Per Capita | % of Goal Achieved
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Santa Cruz | 131 | $15,600.00 | $19,510.00 | $148.93 | 125.06%
Santa Cruz Sunrise | 98 | $20,625.00 | $20,140.00 | $205.51 | 97.65%
Saratoga | 130 | $24,950.00 | $21,716.00 | $167.05 | 87.04%
Scotts Valley | 44 | $10,500.00 | $12,638.00 | $287.23 | 120.36%
Silicon Valley Star | 14 | $2,001.00 | $1,100.00 | $78.57 | 54.97%
Sunnyvale | 72 | $17,740.00 | $22,025.00 | $305.90 | 124.15%
Sunnyvale Sunrise | 13 | $3,010.00 | $4,410.00 | $339.23 | 146.51%
Watsonville | 82 | $15,000.00 | $8,117.00 | $98.99 | 54.11%
**District Totals** | 3845 | $660,105.00 | $656,926.75 | $170.85 | 99.52%

# Zone 26 Every Rotarian Every Year Tracker

**Goal - 100% of Rotarians Participate**

District 5170 is one of 13 Districts in Rotary Zone 26 which covers Central and Southern California, Arizona, Hawaii and part of Nevada. The goal of the Every Rotarian Every Year Campaign, as the name indicates, is for Every Rotarian to give to the Rotary Foundation, every year, at whatever level they are able. Below is the current tracking for the 2013-14 Rotary Year.

**District 5170 is in First Place!**

Should we rejoice and pat ourselves on the back for being in the lead for Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) in our Zone? Well my answer is no. Our goal is 100% and unless we achieve that goal we should not feel proud. Obviously this is a club issue so congratulations go to those clubs who are at 100%: Los Altos Sunset, San Jose Silicon Valley, and San Lorenzo Valley. We also have seven clubs over 90%: Capitola/Aptos, East Paulo Alto Bayshore, Freemont. Livermore, Los Altos, Mission San Jose, and Tri-Valley. Is your club listed? If not it is time to talk to those individuals who have not made a donation as every Rotarian should feel the expectancy to support Rotary by making a donation in the amount they can afford.

Every Club President and Foundation Chair should be working hard to encourage each Rotarian to make a donation.

Roger
Your Rotary Foundation Committee

**General Chair:** Roger Hassler, PDG
rogerhassler@gmail.com

**Fundraising Chair:** Robert Kidd
robert@donahue.com

**Paul Harris Society:** Pamela Philbert
ptpdb@aol.com

**Major Gifts:** Mike Kearns
mike.kearns@comcast.net

**Polio Plus:** Jim Mealey, PDG
jm1031@aol.com

**Grants Chair:** Cecelia Babkirk
rotariancecelia@gmail.com

**Foundation Resources:** Charlie Wasser
charlie@wassergraphics.com

**TRF NewToday Editor:** Jolene Bortz
jborg7@howardtours.net

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### Areas of Focus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas of Focus</th>
<th>Foundation Grants</th>
<th>End Polio Now</th>
<th>Peace Centers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doing Good in the World</td>
<td>Improving Our Foundation</td>
<td>Rotary Fights</td>
<td>Voices for Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promote peace</td>
<td>Lessons Learned</td>
<td>Shot Felt Around the World</td>
<td>Practicing Peace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fight disease</td>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>The Final Inch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide clean water</td>
<td>District Grants</td>
<td>This Close</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Save mothers &amp; children</td>
<td>Global Grants</td>
<td>The Last Hurdle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support education</td>
<td>Vocational Training Teams</td>
<td>Crutch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grow local economies</td>
<td>Mercy Ships &amp; Rotary</td>
<td>Tree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Contribution Forms**

- Contribution (123): [Form](#)
- Multiple Donor (094): [Form](#)

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Please note the **2014 Rotary Fiscal Year-end Deadlines for TRF Contributions** below

**Credit Cards:** Online via [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) — must be authorized on or prior to **30 June 2014**, midnight (CSTime)

Fax: (+1-847-328-5260) — must be received by **30 June 2014**

Phone: (+1-866-976-8279) - must be received prior to the close of business **28 June 2014**

**Checks:** must be postmarked **30 June 2014** or prior and received at the Foundation by **8 July 2014**

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**Break up your gift into smaller pieces through out the year using Rotary Direct:**

- [Form (USA)](#)
- [Guide](#)

Donors may also enroll using The Rotary Foundation Contribution Form (123), by selecting “Make this a recurring contribution”. To learn more about Rotary’s recurring giving program, visit the Rotary Direct section of the website.